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A group of us met this week with Allen Dulles, Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and a number of his top aides for our regular Wednesday morning breakfast. After breakfast, Mr. Dulles took us to his conference room and described to us the organisation and functions of the Central Intelligence Agency and indicated the nature of its relationship to the intelligence services of the Army, Mavy, Air Force, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Atomic Energy Commission and the Department of State.

Naturally, a great deal of the work of the Central Intelligence
Agency is top secret. However, one of its most vital functions is the
coordination of intelligence work, particularly to produce national
estimates. Maticular estimates are the agreed view of all of the intelligence agencies on what may happen in critical areas of the world.

Mr. Dulles meets with the heads of the other intelligence agencies once
a week--or more often if the situation requires--to decide on the final
version of the estimate which their staffs working together have drafted.

The purpose of the national estimate is to inform the policy makers of
the Executive Branch of the possible developments in such spots as
Indo-China, Korea, etc. Upon agreement by the heads of the intelligence
agencies, the estimates are sent to the interested departments and
agencies starting with the Mational Security Council---composed of the
President, Vice President, Secretaries of State and Defense, etc.

Mr. Dulles emphasized that the whole structure of the Central
Intelligence Agency and the workings of the intelligence agencies were
geared to insure that all information received by the United States
Government was properly assessed and evaluated—and put in the right hands—
to insure that every precaution was taken to prevent another Pearl Harbor.

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